

THE HISTORY OF
that most Renowned Christian Worthy
A R T H U R
King of the *Britaines.*





Orby Country men or women, by what name, age,
title or quality soever you are distinguished, I
present you here with a piece of that huge volume
of antiquity; where with our ancestors were (for the most
part contentedly) furnished. Love to the party oftentimes
causeth partiality in publishing of praise-worthy deeds; this
was the notion that the Zelots (of that age so far super-
abounded in their historical relations of this (indeed) match-
less mirror of Monarchs, and example of heroic Actors;
insomuch, that proposing improbabilities they have (in some
sort) drowned realities: to be brief (where brevity is aim-
ed at). Geofry of Monmouth (and other Clarks of that
time) have so fabulously written of King Arthur (and his
Knights of the Round Table) that divers by these Hyper-
bolical discourses, have been possest with ambiguity whe-
ther any such story were essential or no, which to doubt were
no less the no question, whether Wil. (the Son of Robert)
Duke of Normandy was ever King of England. King
Arthur is (and hath been ever since his life and death) ac-
counted for one of the 3. Christian Worthies, whereof not
only our own Countrymen, but also others of forraign Na-
tions have (interchangably) written: This have the French
in as glorious a stile, as they have done of their own Charls
Maine, or Godfrey of Bullaine; therefore to explode one
is to bisse all the rest from the stage of Christianity; which
I being confident you wil not refer to what follows truly col-
lected by a lover of truth,

Elizabeth Salter
Vvith antiquity, M.P.

The Contents of the severall Chapters in this following History.

Chap. I.
How King *Uter* (surnamed Pendragon) flew in batel *Coisen* the proud Duke of *Cornwall* (that rebelled against him) and took his widow faire *Igren* to wife, of whom he begot our renowned *Arthur*.

How the learned Merlin (who flourished in those daies) had the tuition of the young Prince Arthur committed unto him, and how he tutured him.

Chap. 3.
The death of King *Uter Pendragon*, and
how Prince *Arthus* at the age of 18. years
was crowned King of Britain by common
consent.

Chap.4.

Chap. 5.
Off his war with the Saxons, and how he
victoriously overcame them in 12. several
set battles to the utter subduing of their
pride, and preventing the progress of their
conquests, during his own and his p. xt
successors reign.

Chap. 6.
How King Arlbar crost the Seas, and
subdued Denmark and Norway unto him,
in which voyage many admirable occur-
ances hapned well worth observation.

Chap 7.
How King Arthur instituted the order of
the Round Table, and graced it with a 150.
Knights, and the reason of its institution to
maintain concord with the names of the

first Knights of the Order; so in all none under the degree of Baron.

Chap 8.
How King Arthur fought against the
Picks, Scots, Irish, and Saxons in one bat-
telle, and slew Colyim King of the Saxons,
Bladust his Brother, and Childrick Prince
of Germany, who came to their aide, and
how he forced Guillamore King of Ireland to
become tributary unto him.

Chap. 9. How King Arthur layed to subdue Ir- land, which he performed with great honor, converting that People, and all the adja- cent Lands to Christianity, and obedience to him and the British Monarchy.

Chap. 10.
How King *Arthus* and his Knights of
the Round Table, went into Palestine to
fight against the Pagan Infidels, where
they performed wonderfull feats of Arms,
to the honor of Christ and Christendome,
converting or confounding all where ever
they came, and how in the interim the tray-
tor *Mordred* nephew to King *Arthus*, whom
(as Viceroy) he had left to govern the
Land in his absence, usurped the Crown;
which King *Arthus* hearing of, made haste
to come home; and in his march through
France, encountered and overcame *Lucus*
the Roman Consul, and many Princes of
great birth and valour.

Chap. IX.

How King Arthur returned into England.
He and Mordred were both slain in battle,
and how noble King Arthur was buried at
Glastonbury in Somerset-shire.

The History of Arthur King of Britain.

CHAP. I.

How King Uter surnamed Pendragon flew in battell Coisen the proud Duke of Cornwall (that rebelled against him) and took his widow (faire Igren) to wife, of whom he begat one renowned King Arthur.



The Britains having drawn their necks out of the Roman yoke, which they had borne almost 500. years (from Julins Caesar who conquered Casibelan King of Britain) unto Gratian the last Roman governour here, who ended his life (and with him the dominion over this Iland) in Anno domini, 376. After this Vortiger of the race Royall of Britaine, did by murder and usurpation possess the Diadem and jurisdiction over this noble Kingdome; but by his execrable life, and wicked government, growing hatefull in the Subjects eyes; he (scaring their fustly instigated armes against him) sends over into Germany to a noble and warlike Nation, there called the Saxonis (of Saronie) to intreat their aid against his Natives (whom he called Subjects). The Saxons under the conduct of their two Princely Leaders Hengist and Horsus, having got ten an invitative entrance into this Land (which pleased them so well) they never left of proceeding their warlike policy, until they became in time sole Masters of the field; chalenging the Britaines (by degrees) into that monitanous County now called Wales (then Cambria which hapned about the year 590 under Caroticus) the Britaines depoiling usurping Vortiger, put Vortimer his Son into his stead, who being poisoned by Vortigers wife (who was Hergists Daughter) Vortiger reassumes the dominion, reigns with much vexation 19. years, and then both he and Rowan (his Saxon wife) are burnt in their Castle by Aurelius Ambrose of the lineage of Constance, whom Vortiger (to get the Crown) had murdered: To this Aurelius Ambrose (after 32. years tyme) succeeded Uter Pendragon.

his Brother: (All the premises are as so many steps ascendant to our Corp,) this Uter was the Father of our renowned Christian, worthy King Arthur the great of Great Britain, King and Emperor, (the noble subject of this kingly and most Heroick History) in the beginning of King Utors regne, the great Duke of Cornwall named Coisen, prompted by ambition, avarice, and oppulency (three strong cords to draw an evill disposed man to destruction) raised an open rebellion against his Sovereign; in which lawless enterprise he was slain, and his wife Igren (the mirror of Ladies for her beauty and vertue) became as lawfullprise to King Uter; and although the death of Coisen her late Husband might seeme to be some obstrac, yet the justnes of his death, the Kings cause and request, overcomming all niceties to the increas of her joy and dignity, by the marriage of the King, she became Queen of Britain: Of this gallant Lady (Queen Igren) our worthy Arthur was begotten and born, of whose matchless achievements, for the honour of God and his Nation, and the terror of his enemies; this following epitome or abstract of his History, gives a briefe and reall notion; this first Chapter serving as a proeme to what follows in order according to the Rule of Chronography or Historie.

CHAP. I. 2.

How the learned Merlin (who flourished in those daies) had the tuition of Prince Arthur committed unto him, and how he tutored him.

In those daies lived (and flourished) that learned Clark Merlin (by some accounted a Necromancer, by all a Prophet) of whose predictions & Propheticies so much talk is at this day (especially among the Welch) who being in great labour with King Uter (as one by whose counsell he was chiefly governed in all his actions) to him was committed the tuition and education of the young Prince, whose advice gave him his name Arthur, for some cause which he propounded. Merlin having gotten himselfe to be intrusted with the government of this Childe (of whom he prophesied great and admirable deeds to be done) applied all his best of skill and industry, to continue and augment the good opinion which both the King and his People conceiveth of his Learning, Valisedome, Gravity, and Fidelity to his Nation and his Sovereign; so that he nurtured the Prince in his minority in countments unables to

his age and maturitie, and as he grew and increased in years, so did Learning, and Merit grow, and increased in him; insomuch, that in him appeared all that might promise a future greatness and goodness: his mind and study abode all things earthly, he dedicated to divine documents, and next unto that his discourses were all martiall, and his deeds amirable (exceeding the compass of his age) briefly what may be possibly expected in a Prince, every way pointed out (or set apart) for God and his Country, honour (and service) in our Arthur, was so conspicuous, and visible, that the whole world made him the severall objects of both envy and hope: Thus much concerning his education under Merlin: in the next Chapter we will bring his fa. Father his Sepulcher and him to his Throne.

CHAP. III.

Of the death of King Uer Pendragon, and how Prince Arthur at the age of 18. years was crowned King of Britaine by common consent,

King Uer having royally and nobly both governed, and nourished the sickly estate of Britaine, for the space of 28. years, in which time he had gotten many fortunate battels against the Saxons: then being a prevailing party here, at last to verifie our now common saying, too much familiarity breeds contempt growing too much familiar with a Saxon Prince called Enerius, he was by him (or his appointment) poisoned at a great feast held in the Towne of Salop; leaving his noble Son Prince Arthur the expectation of England, and the just revenger of his Fathers death, who immediately seconded his erit, with his own entrance upon the stage of majesty: he was at that time but a stripling in age, having past over but 8. Winters, and as many Summers, but in Statute, Strength, Wisedome, and Valour he passed thousands that doubled his days. Such majesty in his eyes, such gravity in his gesture and countenance, such mediocrity and modesty in his behaviour, and comportment joyned with subtle wisedome, prudence and temperance in his words, that justice and solitudo in his actions were void of doubt or question, so that his wise and cunning Tutor presenting his Pupill so exquisitly qualified, gained the lasting love of the Common-Wealth, for his so artificially roaking grace and nature, to draw on the Chariot of Britains honour and happiness: The same night that his Father was poisoned, Prince Arthur in a dream saw a vision (in this manner) a huge spreading Vine, with great ripe clusters shewed them-

The Life and Death of

Leibes red and ready to be crushed: From the root of this Vine issued a venomous Viper, which Viper was seconded with a great Snake; between the Viper and the Snake was a cruel Combate, the Snake for her advantage wound her selfe about the body of the Vine, and from thence parlied with her enemy, the Viper breathing out threatenings against the Snake instead of hurting her (with his venomous breath) poisoned the grapes which a man in sable habit, comming after to taste of died immediately: Soon after all this came in a lusty raging Lyon, that with his roaring scared away both the Viper and the Snake, and also awaked Prince Arthur. This dream and vision Merlin dissected in these (or the like words) most noble branch of British Royalty, whom my prophetick spirit dares in the present tense (regarding of the future) call the sole and absolute Monarch of all Christendome; this last night thy royall Father hath by late reconciled enemies (whom we are forbidden to trust) been invited to a supper, and though as yet same hath not sounded the strumpet of his death; neither do I know any(thing by the voice of the People) but that he is very well and in perfect good health: yet (worthy Prince) my genius (conspiring with your highness dream and vision) dictates to my thoughts that he is by this time (to our great sorrow) dead, being poisoned by Remor at the appointment of Querinus, the Waxon Prince; who was lately of a fierce so transformed into the shape of a feined friend. This I tell you and this you will find true; these are the Viper and the Snake (for they were at variance before, but agreed for the poisoning of Uter) which have between them poisoned the Vine (intimated by the grapes) whiche your Father signified by the man in a sable habit (a fit emblem of death) tasted and dyed thereon; well what (renowned Prince) remaining now, but that you must be that raging, fierce, revenging, and roaring Lyon, who with your powerfull and frightfull voyce of command shall make this Snake and this Viper, this Remor and this Querinus with all the rest of that hellish rabble of heathenish Pagans; these miscreant Saxons to fly away and hide themselves from your (Lyon like) fury. No sooner were these speeches by learned Merlin uttered, but presently a Post came in all hast to give information of the busyness, signifying that King Uter Pendragon was poisoned: the Saxons had possesst themselves of the Town of Salop, having most treacherously butchered man, woman, and child that were therein; first ravishing both Wives and Virgins before their Husbands and Parents faces, and then made a general massacre of all together: When Prince Arthur heard this sad, (and horrible) report (after sundry short ejaculations invoking divine assistance)

assistance,) he turning to his Tutor (Merlin) said thus ; learned Sir your words are oracles, and so I shall ever esteem of the same. during my mortal life, when I swerve from your counsell, I can expect nothing but destruction to my self and my people ; and if Alexander esteemed so much a dead Homers work, what shall I Arthur deem of a learne Merlin's boycce, the noblest Barrons, Prelates, & curiouse people of the Kingdom, when they had notice of this Royal Tragedy made hall bothe have a King to govern them, and a revenging scourge for their enemies, so with a unanimous consent they chose Prince Arthur for their Sovereign.

C H A P. IV.

Of the great Triumphs, Tilts and Turnaments used in his Court in the beginning of his reign, and the wonderful resort of gallant warriors.

The barbarous Sarons having performed that treasonable practise in the poisoning of King Uter (as you heard in the precedent chapter) though they had made sure work for the totall extirpation of the British blood, not thinking this our Arthur to be his successor, though the hearts of the Britains (in this exigent) were set upon the consideration of his promising vertues, which were the step by which he principally ascended the Throne. For although I do not, many thendid question his legitimacie of knowing that the love which King Uter professed to f. ic Igren (for her beauty and vertue) caused the jarre between him and her husband ; but that's not pertinent to our story. Arthur is crowned King of Britaine, and that the Saxons shall soon know to their cost. At his first initiation into the government, he proclaimed a generall Turnament for all commers, at the City of Reulam (long since buried in raine and oblisyon) near to St Albons) King Arthur was crowned (by the hands of William Bishop of London) to this Triumphant Tilt, and Turnament : it is wonderful to relate what resoxt there was of gallant warriors from all neigbor Nations, from Scotland, Ireland, France and Almaine, the most approved Knights for valour gave luster to King Arthur's Court, who for munificent entertainment and large hospitality far surmounted all his predecessours : at this Turnament (which lasted all the Whitsontide week and four daies after) was much galantry performed, both by our Britaines and Forraigners, which were tedious to relate in particular. In this brief discourse it shal suffice to nominate some of the principall actors in this martiall scene, how they were mated and who were Victors. First Cador Duke of Cornwal a most valiant and British knight, enconctred Macpar Prince of Lenster (in Ireland) a mighty man in statute and composure of body so of equal skill and courage with the best knight then living. These two Heroes at

The Life and death of

the helte felle carier found fortune so impattall in her friendship that they were were both sent one way, their bodies fell to the earth, and their spears mounted (with their same) into the the air. This they did thre severall times with the like issue. Cador likewise ran against Godfrey Count of Henault, a very good, and experienced Knight, to whom Lady Fortune had been heretofore extremely prodigall in curtesies, but now to shew her mutability, her same left him, and so did his vital breath; for being a corpulent man of body, with the violent fall from his horse he broke his neck and died presently in the place, whose death was so generally lamented, that the good Knight Duke Cador sorrowfully threw off his armour and tilted no more during all the time; briefly the Earle of Ludlow overthrew and wounded the Duke of Mountpelier; the Earle of Rothesay (a gallant Scot) did the like to the Count St Paul, (and the King of Northwales running against the Duke of Halstein threw both him and his horse to the ground, breaking (with the violence of the fall) the neck of the horse and the arme of the rider, the Duke of Britaine did the like with the Count of Ipre; but the most notable combate of all that I have either mentioned by (for brevity omitted) hapned upon the last day between the Count Palatine of Chester and the Dauphin of Vien, which considering all circumstances deserves expression (though in a bres matter) vnting the Courtey entertainment before the Turnament (and in the interim) these two young gallants, both Batchelors, became mutually enamoured on the marchless beauty of the Lady Jaquinta sole daughter and heire to the Earle of Flanchire, who was a Courtey attendant on (and Neece to) the Queen Igren the Kings Mother, and being zealous of each others fortune in the affars of Cupid; Mars (upon this offered occasion interposing himselfe as a moderator to decide the difference, so that being interorly (as well as exterorly) armed, and both gallantly mounted, they entred the Lists with extraordinarie engagment, and courage (as the event justifies) at their first encounter, both of them fell horse and man to the ground sorely bruised, and recovering their legs (contrary to their former selfe) to it fiercely with their swords, their manhood whetted on that salt Ladys persussions, turned friendly tryall (by turnament) to the mortal thirst of revenge, with such eager stroaks one of them pursued the other, that the Princely spectators must needs judge death to be the ampre of the controverie; so both being disswayed by Ropall command, and intreated of friends, all was answered with desire of protestation, with such accerdity and accrimony of heart, vntill they made to defend, and offend, that it was hard to censure whether malice or valour had most predominance, the Count Palatine

judg.

Judging his native right to the Lady more then the Dolphin which was
an Alene and the Dolphin deeming that Princely birth, and corespondent
qualties might merit affection in any part of the world. This is
the beginning and ground of the quarrel; whereof the end and issue is
death to both, as you shall hear presently; the Dolphin hit the Count
Palatin such a forcible blow on the helme, making way by Steele
(through Steele) it both pierced his skull, and also brought him upon his
knees, at which advantage, he ran violently upon him to have crush-
ed him to the earth, but the Count Palatin (active both in body and
spirit) reassumes his legs (the Dolphins strength being much inferior
to his) and with his kyns sword lenth him such a lucky, or unluckly
stroke between the head and shoulders, that cutting his windpipe, down-
fell the Dolphin, but as he fell he thrust his sword under the skirt of the
Count Palatines armoz, which visiting his intrals with the point of
death: these two noble Knights and lovers, though not of each other,
tryed both together in hatred, neither of them enjoying his wish, but re-
venge: and so with the end of them I will finish che feast, and turna-
ment, and withall conclude this chapter.

C H A P. V.

Of King *Arthurs* first War with the *Saxons*, and how he victoriously
overcame them in twelve several battels, to the subduing of their
pride and preventing their progres of conquest during his own, and
his next successors raign.

THe triumph thus tragically begun and ended; our worthy Arthur,
having first solemnized the funeral obsequies of his Royal Father;
also the Count Henault, the Dolphin of Viena, and the Count Palatin
of Chester, which was on four severall dayes performed with all due
celebrtie, begins to think the redempson of both upon his native Country
from Pagan sladery, and revenging of his Royall Fathers horrible
murther. And to this intent he with all possible celerity musters up all
the bold Britains of this Kingdome Chelstaines and Barrons assembling
at London the metropolitan city of the realm, he made an oration unto
them to this or the like effect. Noble narves, on whom, herte to divine
help, my honor, wealth, and lasty depends, now is the time that we
must arm our selves with Christian confidence against these misbeha-
vning miscreants, who for so long a time have gernund you

The Life and Death of

and glutted themselves in ours and our worthy amanours blood, the execrable massacre at Salop begun in the poison of our Royall Father, being yet in fresh bleeding memory, needs no other incentive, it being of it selfe a morte forcible enough to conglutinate your hearts, and put edge to your valour against these blasphemors of Christ and his Law, and captivators of us, and what should be most dear to us, even our consciences : to the heathenish Idolatry and merciless tyranny, much needs not be said to excite, when the cause it selfe is so urgent, and presseive. Be yet true to me, your Sovreaign, as I by Gods assistance, whose substitute I am, will be faithfull and just, to defend and protect you my Christian British Subjects, from the vasalage of these infidels ; and I doubt not but we shall bring these our godly resolutions to a happy and a glazious period. This speech was received with a generall plaudicie, the acclamations of the people were so loud, and great, that it is almost beyond credit to tell how far they were heard, of arme, arme, arme, now is all the cry, and there was no need of pressing of souldiers as we use now adayes, so2 souldiers pressed forward to this War, without command or pay : So that within a sortnight space and less, therer appeared in sundry places of the Land above 20000. able fighting men, all compleatly armed, all crying for God, King Arthur, the British Liberty, and Christian Religion : Well, but what do the Sarons all this while, are they idle ? no, great preparations are made, new forces arm dagly at the several ports and habens of the Land : Some at Southhampton, others at Sandwich, and a third at Farnouth ; now is Britaine become an Accelvama, nothing but blood, ruine and slaughter is to be expected ; but the best of it, it is King Arthur and his noble Britains are alwaies victorioues : the Pagan Idolaters fall under the Christian swerd, insomuch that within 18. monlhs 12. mighty hostis of Sarons are overthrowen in 12. severall set battels, fought in sundry places of the Kingdome ; the first and greatest was in Shropshire near Salop upon New-Years day A.D. 517 where 46000 Pagan Saxons were sent to the devil for a Newyears gift, 3000. chiese Commanders, and Pyment, as they call them, taken prisoners ; this memorabile battell in a manner madeth shipwrack of all the Saxon greatness in this Land ; yet in March following by the aide that came from them from beyond the Sea, and their scattered forces which they had rallied together they openly opposed K. Arthur and his British Army, near to Oundly in Norhampton shire, where with the slaughter of abobe 18000 Saxons and 150 prisoners,

King

King Arthur abstained a glorious victory. To make short, what would be overlong if I should tell you all; in the space of time above mentioned this noble Christian worthy, became conqueror of these bloody, and ambitious Saxon conquerors. 12. severall times; insomuch that they not being able any longer to withstand his never changing Fortune, were at the last (so many as were left alive) enforced quite to abandon the Land, to which they never returned during the raigne of Arthur, and his next successor, which was (his Nephew) Constantine, Son to the late mentioned Cador the valiant and magnanimous Duke of Cornwall: Thus much for his first war with (and extirpation of) the Saxons, wherein he shewed himselfe to be a true Son to his poisoned Father, and a just Father to his his oppressed, distressed, and captived Nation great Britain.

CHAP.VI.

How King Arthur crost the Seas, and subdued Denmark and Norway and Gotland unto him, in which voyage many notable occurrences passed well worth observation.

Having thus vigorously triumphed over his enemies at home, our (not idle) Arthur caused a Navy of 400. ships to be presently well rigg'd and manned, and an Army consisting of 60000. foot, and 20000. horse to be ready to attend his Majesty upon what designe he would be pleased to employ them; which done, himselfe in his Royall person, his kinsman Cador Duke of Cornwall, whom he made Captain Generall of the horse, the Earle of Ludlow named Sir Marston, Lieutenant generall under him; the Earls of Leicester, Lincolne, Salop, and Flintshire, all employed in places of great charge in the Army. Morgan King of Norhwales, and Theoder (of whom the moderne name Teuder originally sprung) King of Southwales each of them voluntarily offering unto King Arthur (to whom they did fealty) their aide and assistance in this gallant intended voyage; So that having all things fitting, and nothing wanting (that might promise propefty) our famous and renowned Navy, with our bold British Christian Army, put from Dover in the Ides of March, Anno 519. for the Conquest of those three then Pagan Nations, Denmark, Norway, and Gotland, and with such happy gales they were besettled, and waited on by such auspicious Gars, that as they were not long under sail, so upon the Shore their wishes were answered with successe accordingly, insomuch that

10
The Life and Death of

it was no more then hope and have, wish und win; for our Arthur might
alwaies lay with Cæsar, veni, vidi, vici, I came, I saw, I over-
came; so the divine power was so immediately assistent, with this valiant
Christian Champion our worthy British Arthur, that what enterprise
soever he took in hand (though never so much difficulty appeared in it)
he was certain to come off victor; at his arrival in Denmark, mighty
opposition was made to prevent farther entrance into the Land;
but all in vain, our Noble Biskaines (had been by former experience)
taught to account that ground whereon their feet stood, to be their own
inheritance, and that they wold never part withall alive: this re-
solution caused King Arthur to conquer where he came, whatever oppo-
sition was made. The King of Denmark whose name was Echilleus,
was at a strong hold of his, called Bull Castle, which King Arthur (ha-
ving overcome the Danish Army) laid siege to, and in four dayes took
it by mains assault: the King to save his life, humbly upon his knees
did homage to K. Arthur, for his Kingdom, which he wold hold of him
as his leige Lord, paying to him (and his heirs, Kings of Britain) an an-
ual tribute of 40000 Ducats: which when Dolleivius King of Gotaland
heard who was comming to assist Echilleus (earing the event) he be-
gan to retire; but our horsemen so plied the opportunity, that oberta-
king the rear of the army; they gave fierce onset to them, holding them
in play, till the maine body of the British foot came up, and insed little
ado there was to gaine this victory, which fear had halfe done already,
the King was taken (with 12. men in his company near to a wood side)
by a party of our horse, who were imployed in pursuite of the dispersed
army: who being brought before King Arthur, submitted, resigning
himselfe (his Crown and KINGDOME) to hold in FEE of the BRITISH
Monarchy, yearly allowing a tribunary stipend of 700. Franks (of
Gold) delivering his owne brother Harpus (Prince of Finis) in hostage
till security was made for the true payment of it. With this prosperous
successe, our worthy Arthur set forward to Norway, the King whereof
(Lotho by name, a man of maruelous strength and valour) having had
intelligence of all that had passed in Denmark (and thereby conjecturing
what would come to pass) gathering all the premision that might be of
men and armes to check the carre of this uncessable armie; which he
indeed had accomplished, but that a power more then humane prevented
it: at the first arrivall of the Biskaines (which they permitted as tru-
sting upon their lands strength, which was 30000 horse and foot in a
minute all that the Land could make) King Arthur sent a messen-
er to King Lotho, requiring of hym his KINGDOME, and people to yeeld obedi-
ence

ence to the Christian Crown of Britain, as his neighbor Kings had done; which if he refused to do (without effusion of blood) he doubted not to gain by force what he sought to win by favor: the proud Pagan Prince (presuming upon his own, more then common ability of body, and the magnitude of his army, sent back this despicable answer (by way of defiance and challenge) to King Arthur, and his cavalry. Know dairing Arthur, that thou and all thy crafty Christians, whom contemptuously thou hast brought against the decree of the gods, into this Northern part of Europe, shall be the laughing Stock of Lotcho and his matchless Norvegians, and although fortune have smited thee to triumph over the cowardise of Echilius and Dollavius wits; assure thy selfe all this will conduce to the greater glory of me, who am (by the gods) designed to be the Conqueror of thee, who hath conquered so many of their devout supplicaters, thou art come upon my land without my leave, but shalt never depart thence with thy life; but because I intend to win a particular praise in thy ruine (and the chese men with thee) I challenge thy selfe to meet my selfe in personal combat, and if thou, & they think well of it, 10. of the most approued Knights in thy army, against 10. of mine, this if accepted by thee and thine, shall be performed by me and mine, to morrow morning by 9. of the clock, upon Armond plain, two leagues from either Army; bring you courage along with you, and let your horses bring you to the place of destruction; at the time & place appointed; if you sayle our expecation, we will not sayle to be with you (to the ruine of your hoste) in the afternoon of the same day, in the interim, take leave to pause upon the words of the mortall enemy Lotcho, Rex Norvegia. This Letter coming into King Arthurs view, it is unexpressible with what joy he read it, and calling his Princes, Barrone, and illustrate Knights before him, unto them he cunniculated the premisses: when presently a vertuous emulation (and strife arose among them) who should be the combatores in this glorious hazard; to be byesse, the busyness could no other wise be decided then by casting lots (so hungry were their Christian appetites after this honourable breakfast) the lots fell upon Duke Cador of Cornwall, Morgan and Theodore King of North & South Wales, the Earle of Lecester, Lincoln, Flint, Ludloe, and Salop, the Barron of Aberqueny, and the Barron of Bark; these 10. gallant Knights to the spirituall envy of many others rode along with King Arthur (at the time to the place appointed) where they met there resolute opponents, so punctual to promise, that I may well say they met indeed neither party staying for the other; but fast comming to the place together, as though the 22. horses had been privy to catch others secrets

it was no more then hope and have, wish and win; for our Arthur might alwaies say with Cæsar, *veni, vidi, vici*, I came, I saw, I overcame; so the divine power was so immediately assistant, with this valiant Christian Champion our worthy British Arthur, that what enterprise soever he took in hand (though never so much difficulty appeared in it) he was certain to come off victor; at his arrivall in Denmark, mighty opposition was made to prevent farther entrants into the Land; but all in vaine, our Noble Britaines (had been by former experience) taught to account that ground whereon their feet stood, to be their own inheritance, and that they would never part withall alive: this resolution caused King Arthur to conquer where he came, whatever opposition was made. The King of Denmark whose name was Echilleus, was at a strong hold of his, called Bull Castle, which King Arthur (having overcome the Danish Army) laid siege to, and in four dayes took it by mains assault: the King to save his life, humbly upon his knees did homage to King Arthur, for his Kingdom, which he would hold of him as his leige Lord, paying to him (and his heirs, Kings of Britain) an annual tribute of 40000 Ducats: which when Doileivius King of Gotland heard who was comming to assit Echilleus (earing the event) he began to retire; but our horsemen so pleyed the opportunity, that obertaking the reare of the army; they gave fierce onset to them, holding them in play, till the maine body of the British host came up, and indeed little and their was to gaine this victory, which seat had halfe done already, the King was taken (with 12. men in his company near to a wood side) by a party of our horse, who were imployed in pursuit of the dispersed army: who being brought before King Arthur, submitted, resigning himself (his Crown and Kingdome) to hold in Fee of the British Monarchy, yearly allowing a tribunary stipend of 700. Franks (of Gold) delivering his own brother Harpus (Prince of Finis) in hostage till security was made for the true payment of it. With this prosperous successe, our worthy Arthur set forward to Norway, the King whereof (Lotho by name, a man of maruelous strenght and valour) having had intelligence of all that had passed in Denmark (and thereby conjecturing what would come to pass) gathering all the premision that might be of men and armes to check the carere of this uncessable army; which he indeed had accomplished, but that a power more then humans prevented it: at the first arrivall of the Britaines (which they permitted as trussing upon their lands strenght, which was 20000 horse and foot in a minute all that the Land could make) King Arthur sent a messenger to King Lotho, requiring of him his Kingdome, and people to yeeld obedi-

ence to the Christian Crown of Britain, as his neighbor Kings had done; which if he refused to do (without effusion of blood) he doubted not to gain by force what he sought to win by favor: the proud pagan Prince (presuming upon his own, more then common ability of body, and the magnitude of his army, sent back this despicable answer (by way of defiance and challenge) to King Arthur, and his cavalry. Know dairing Arthur, that thou and all thy crafty Christians, whom contemptuously thou hast brought against the decree of the gods, into this Northerne part of Europe, shall be the laughing stock of Locho and his marche's Norvegians, and although fortune haue smit thee to triumph over the cowardise of Echillius and Dollavious wits; assure thy selfe all this will conduce to the greater glory of me, who am (by the gods) designed to be the Conqueror of thee, who hath conquered so many of their devout supplicators, thou art come upon my land without my leave, but shalt never depart thence with thy life; but because I intend to win a particular praise in thy ruine (and the chiefe men with thee) I challenge thy selfe to meet my selfe, in personal combat, and if thou & thy think well of it, 10. of the most approued Knights in thy army, against 10. of mine, this is accepted by thee and thine, shall be performed by me and mine, to morrow morning by 9. of the clock, upon Armond plain, two leagues from either Army; bring you courage along with you, and let your horses bring you to the place of destruction; at the time & place appointed; if you fayle our expecation, we will not sayle to be with you (to the ruine of your hoste) in the afternoon of the same day, in the interim, take leave to pause upon the woards of thy mortall enemy Locho, Rex Norvegia. This Letter comming into King Arthurs view, it is unexpressible with what joy he read it, and calling his Princes, Barons, and illustrate Knights before him, unto them he communicated the premises; when presently a vertuous emulation (and strife arose among them) who should be the combatores in this glorious field; so hunc-
gry were their Christian appetites after this honourable breakfast (the lots fell upon Duke Cador of Cornwall, Morgan and Theodore King of North & South Wales, the Earle of Lecceler, Lincoln, Flint, Ludloe, and Salop, the Baron of Aberqueny, and the Baron of Bark; these 10. gallant Knights to the spirituall enby of many others) were along with King Arthur (at the time to the place appointed) where they met their resolute opponents, so punctual to promise, that I may well say they met indeed neither party staying for the other, but fast coming to the place together, as though the 22. horses had been privy to catch others fe-

crets, or known their riders intentions : Thus being mutually met after a few course complements (such as the present occasion dictated) they fell to the busines which they came about, with such impartial hardines, that you might well guess that the one party sought to win a Kingdome, and the other sought to save one : it would be both troublesome and tedious to recite the particulars of this happy bickering, therefore I will content my selfe with the rehearsall of the two Kings encounter combat, & success onely generally telling how the rest behaved themselves, and to whom the victory hapned . King Arthur charged his enemy so furiously at their first encounter, that Lotho being a man of admirable strength, & not able to unhorse him, he himselfe was so near dismounting, that he recouler into the crupper of his saddle, at which his very eyes revealed the anger of his heart, so that recovering his seat, and at a second pass g̃ both their Lances (though marvelous strong) flew into the ayre, but with the vehemency of the stroke King Lothos left shoulde joint was dissociated, which he chafing (like a boar) sought his best advantage by sudden dismounting, but King Arthur (the aciviss man alive) was on ground with sword in hand before him, and at the first very struck him on the head so vigorously, that he cleft his helme and head to the eyes ; so down fell Lotho like a mighty Dake, yeelding his body and Kingdomme to the mercy of King Arthur, whom he woulb bury the one, and dispose of the other ; in the interim our hardy British Knights had slain 6. of their 10. Antagonists, and mortally wounded the other four, either of them having received any notable hurt : the Earle of Flint had his horse stam under him, the like has the King of Northwales, Duke Cador was cut in the arme, the Earle of Leicester in the leg, and the Earle o. S. lop in the shoulder, no other hart was done unto the British Party, the dejected Noȝbeiglans hearing these tydings (so full of horrour to them) threw down their weapons and fled, whom our Britains overraking, King Arthur caused a proclamation to be made, that whosoever would forsake the worship of their false gods, and adore the true God Jesus Christ, and be baptizid into the Christian Faith, shoulb be received to mercie, the obllinate to expect none : upon this many thousands promised, and in four dayes performed the same, by baptisme, and confession of the Christian Faith; among the rest, the Duke of Erikine next heire to the Crown of Norway, was baptizid, and C̃rowned both in one day (by the Bishop of Menevia (since called Saint Davids) who was alwayes attendant on King Arthur, who receiving homage of this new Christian King (the firſt of that name and condition, ſo ſo he was named at his

his iuitation to his Kingdome and Christiany) for the Kingdome of Norway, our illustrious King Arthur (with his Royall British army, laden with honour and victory) left these coasts, and set sayle for Britain, wheresoon arving, they were received with uncredible gladness, and triumph, as such a prosperous voyage deserve.

CHAP.VII.

How King Arthur instituted the order of the Round Table, and graced it with 150. Knights, with the reason of its institution to maintain concord.

King Arthur having filled all eares with the fame of his incomparable victories, and being at home on all sides quiet, by none molested, by all loved or feared, to honour those high born Princes, Nobles, and Barrons, who had done God and him such notable service, he betheught him how he might in some manner gaerdonize their (incomparable) worth, with some honourable Order of Knights, had (a thirg customaray in many renowned conquerors) and because he took notice that being most of them of equivoalent condition, both in birth, and haughtiness of spirit, to avoid emulation, envy, and heart burnings, incident to such a Company about priority or precedency of place at feastes, to prevent any such occasion of distraction (and to continue concord, and mutuall correspondence among that noble fellowship,) he instituted at the City of Winchester where he then was residing) the Order of the Round Table, causynge a certayne number of Round Tables to be made, at which these illustrious Heroes dined, and supped, the salt and the bread alwais set in the middle, there was neither upper end nor lower end (of the Table) but all equal; into this noble Order was received 150. men of high bloud equality which (of what high birth soever) none were under the degree of Baron) were called Knights of the Round Table, and because I find many of their names to be at this day great surnames in the Monarchy of great Britain, I think it convenient (to the herte of the bearers, notwithstanding my promised brevity) to set down the names of the first Knights of the Round Table in Alphabetical order as I found them long since in an old Charctorian manuscript.



- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Sir Acolon. | 21. Sir Bevis. | 41. Sir Dallin. |
| 2. Sir Alot. | 22. Sir Best. | 42. Sir Doughty. |
| 3. Sir Agar. | 23. Sir Boulacie. | 43. Sir Daynty. |
| 4. Sir Aucruise. | 24. Sir Baude. | 44. Sir Dunsmore. |
| 5. Sir Ambross. | 25. Sir Betris. | 45. Sir Darcy. |
| 6. Sir A'eot. | 26. Sir Baulks. | 46. Sir Daiby. |
| 7. Sir Ascue. | 27. Sir Cador. | 47. Sir Duncombe. |
| 8. Sir Albune. | 28. Sir Christian. | 48. Sir Dotrill. |
| 9. Sir Auburne. | 29. Sir Carlton. | 49. Sir Doguerie. |
| 10. Sir Ash. | 30. Sir Cleere. | 50. Sir Doginer. |
| 11. Sir Am'ce. | 31. Sir Clare. | 51. Sir Evans. |
| 12. Sir Beumans. | 32. Sir Cade. | 52. Sir Ector. |
| 13. Sir Belamore. | 33. Sir Cosels. | 53. Sir Einerie. |
| 14. Sir Bersunt. | 34. Sir Callin. | 54. Sir Esmaeere. |
| 15. Sir Belvoire. | 35. Sir Clay. | 55. Sir Eatone. |
| 16. Sir Bois. | 36. Sir Corts. | 56. Sir Eger. |
| 17. Sir Boleobus. | 37. Sir Castor. | 57. Sir Edwards. |
| 18. Sir Basset. | 38. Sir Daubeny. | 58. Sir Erskeine. |
| 19. Sir Bygot. | 39. Sir Delamore. | 59. Sir Euball. |
| 20. Sir Brian. | 40. Sir Deucie. | 60. Sir Eupheos |

61 sir Ermin	91 sir Hope	121 sir Maurice
62 sir Floll	92 sir Hill	122 sir Martin
63 sir Frith	93 sir Hunt	123 sir Morton
64 sir Fly	94 sir Hugin	124 sir Miles
65 sir Forseue	95 sir Harcourt	125 sir Meridith
66 sir Feilde	96 sir Harold	126 sir Mariot
67 sir Foulke	97 sir Hamond	127 sir Newton
68 sir Fly	98 sir Heby	128 sir Norton
69 sir Flesk	99 sir Hollis	129 sir Norman
70 sir Forbs	100 sir Jermin	130 sir Nayler.
71 sir Fleere	101 sir Ingram	131 sir Nudigate
72 sir Frisk	102 sir Islip	132 sir Napper
73 sir Font	103 sir Ipre	133 sir Oliver
74 sir Fode	104 sir Jones	134 sir Ostolstone
75 sir Freake	105 sir Joyce	135 sir Ouldvoire
76 sir Fax	106 sir Iwe	136 sir Ostourne
77 sir Gheslet	107 sir Killian	137 sir Percivall
78 sir Gavin	108 sir Kirk	138 sir Pelless
79 sir Gaberis	109 sir Kercacy	139 sir Pallamaide
80 sir Gareth	110 sir Knevett	140 sir Peregrin
81 sir Gravet	111 sir Kilegrew	141 sir Playster
82 sir Geuls	112 sir Lancelot	142 sir Querin
83 sir Gortrim	113 sir Lanjon	143 sir Reiner
84 sir Gilden	114 sir Lyonell	144 sir Roderik
85 sir Giles	115 sir Lewes	145 sir Randolph
86 sir Goule	116 sir Loftus	146 sir Sugris
87 sir Gaull	117 sir Lsude	147 sir Tristrem
88 sir Guest	118 sir Leuellen	148 sir Trismore
89 sir Hard	119 sir Lovelace	149 sir Tracy
90 sir Hay	120 sir Leuktor	150 sir Valentine

These were the Names of those Princes
and Noble Men.

The Life and death of

First brother of this honourable fellowship (and fraternitie) called
Knights of the Round Table, between whom there was such an una-
nimous and mutual correspondence, that all the whole world admired
the admirable feats of chivalry by them performed; soz with these 150.
scarce any 300 Knights in Europe durst adventure to Combat; of their
noble acts you shall hear farther in the progress of our history to the
end.

CHAP.VIII.

How King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, fought against
the Picts, Scots, Irish, and Saxons in one battell; and how he slew
with his own hands, Colgrim King of the Saxons, Balduff his brother,
and Childrick a Prince of Germany, and how he forced Guillamore King
of Ireland to become tributary unto him.

S

He Saxon's envying King Arthur's prosperity, and dreading at their late
Success in Britaine, have now laboured the Picts, Scots, Irish, and
the Hesens of Germany, to aide them in revenging themselves upon
K. Arthur; so they came hither with an army composed of all these afore-
mentioned Nations, consisting of 20000 horse and foot under the con-
duct of Colgrim their King, Balduff his brother, Guillamore King of
Ireland, and Childrick: (Prince Coras now Landgrave) Hesen
meaning to share the Kingdome of Britain, among them, they landed
suddenly in the Mouth of England, and burnt and spoyled before them
in the space of 18 miles without any opposition, but so soon as ever our
Lyon like Arthur, & his Knights heard of it, they came with a puissant
force to withstand them, and near to Humber obtained a glorious victory
slew 28000 in the Field of the common scye, and took 300 of the
chief Commanders prisoners; but which most adornes the victory,
King Arthur himselfe in person slew head to head Colgrim the Saxons
King, with Balduff his brother, and Childrick of Hesen, but Guillamore
King of Ireland trusting to his footman ship (for his horse was slaine
under him) ran towards the See side, thinking to escape by shipping,
but Sir Cador overtaking him, brought him prisoner to the King, who
forced him for the safeguard of his life, to resigne his Kingdome unto his
majesty, and to that effect he did homage, yeelding to pay unto King
Arthur (and his heires) a yearly purtion of nine thousand pounds:
Thus was our noble Arthur every way magnified, his foes every
where confounded; and the monarchy of Britain under his government
be-

became the most most renowned throughout all the whole world ; the Saxons never daring to come towards it, during his reign nor his next successors (Constance) as I told you heretofore.

CHAP. IX.

How King Arthur (and his Knights) sayled to subdue Ireland, which he performed with great honour, converting that, and the adjacent Lands, to Christianity, and obedience to him and the British Monarchy.

Great Spirits cannot be idle, the thoughts once fixed on honourable achievements, and cherished with happy success, are ever busied in finding out this jewel, where ever it lie hid in the world : This is evident in our Christian Wo^rthy, and his gallant Knights, who loathing to be backward in putting forwards Gods glory in the enlargement of Christendom : and hearing that Ireland, and other people thereabout live in heathenish Idolatry, and blind worship, not having the light of the Gospe^l as yet revealed to them ; he raised an army to reduce them to the Law of Christ. (and obedience to him,) with happy success this voyage goeth on. King Arthur and his Royal army, consisting of no more but 30000, depending on divine Auxiliaries, adventure upon this great enterprise, and arrive happy in Ireland, where they find great opposition, yet overcome with small difficulty : The people by Nature rude and savage, as hardy as their Country is cold ; yet these cold comforts nor the peoples frozen conscience, dismay not our undaunted Britains, whose zealous fire is of force both to warme themselves, and to thain their enemies hearts : a furious encounter they found at their entrance, for the barbarous Islanders were upon a sudden ranged into a body of above soyle thousand, their King Malvadius (a renowned and hardy Knight, famous for many victories against the Laplanders and Finians) came himselfe in person before his soldiers boldly demanding a fight of, and speech with King Arthur, which (to his happy un^happiness) he soon attained.

CHAP. X.

How King Arthur (and his Knights of the Round Table) sayled into Palestine to fight against the Pagan Infidels, where they performed

wonderfull feats of chivalry to the honour of Christ and Christianity ;
converting, or contouquing alwher ever they came.

King had not King Arthur and his (honour thirly) Knights slept
at home, but fresh a venture pricks them forward to travell; Europe
(by their meanes) is quitted (and the sold of Christ much enlarged)
but in Asia the Pagan infidels rage : Palestine (with her Christians)
groanes under this hevy yoke ; therfore our worthy Arthur and his
gallant warriers will not rest in peace, while tynges of this horible
war and oppression is spread through the land of Christendome : briefly,
with the very same army, which he brought out of the cold Countries,
he marched upon this hot (yet honourable) enterprise, of all other the
most laudable for a Christian Army to engage himselfe in ; let us now
imagine we see the Christian Banner displayed between Jerusalem and
Jericho, upon the plain of Naber, where an innumerable host of Saracens
are encamped against the Christian multitude (with great confidence)
goes our Christian Army, not doubting of (that which they near failed
to get) victory, which by divine providence they accomplished ; it were
incredible to shew what extraordinary vertue King Arthur, and his
Knights performed in that service ; for three dayes space the battel con-
tinued, and then our Christian Army had the happiness to behold the
destruction and total rout of the whole Pagan host.

C H A P . XI

How King Arthur returned into England. He and Mordred were both
slain in battell, and how noble King Arthur was buried at Glastenbury
in Somerset-shire.

Now bath prosperous wind and weather brought our worthy Ar-
thur (and his bold belonists) to the British Coasts ; he seeks la-
ding at Dover, but finds it fortifyed, to impeach his arrival, the traytor
Mordred had so possessed the people with his spirit of treason, and rebel-
lion, that they in stead of magnificent hews, and triumphes to welcome him (as his vertue required, and their duty had heretofore done) defied
him to his face (O ingrateful Cawiffs) and insolently denies his entrance
into his owne inheritance (a very unfeiuerdson for the unparalleld
honour) wherewith King Arthur and his Knights had endowed and a-
dorned the British Monarchy) upon the British shire he can set no foo-
ting

ting, but by force which (if there be no remedy) he knows how to do (being so long
(and so well) busy in that busyness) and so by force doth enter, and is by a huge
army of (basardly) Britaines oppoſed, a cruel fight is maintained for a long time,
in fine the King is victor the usurper and his wicked company (for so many as es-
caped alive) fly and were pursued by the King, and their own evill conſcences,
yet being harrowed with malice and as it were Steeleed with baseness, the miscreants
(in that nature worse then the Pagan) ſhoels which his all conquering courage
had fo entrumphed over have the face again to affront that majesty, the splen-
dor whereof had fo dazzling the eys of the world (which looking on his gloriouſ
conquest) that none beheld his countenance (in a warlike conuiction) without
fear and trembling, nor durst they haue done it had they not been (too bold in ſuch
an action) Britaines that dare do any thing Sir Cedor that matchleſſ man of
men) was lame fighting againſt a whole Regiment, Sir Gawin, a man of in-
vincible valour, coming to his rescue, also with him joyned in fellowship of death,
the renowned, and courageous young King of Scotland Arguile by name, coming
to the aide of King Arthur, dyed gallantly fighting in his quartell, Sir Kilián de
Londre environed with a troupe of horſe after the death of 12 men, which with his
own hand he lew, was himſelfe hit with a dart thowne from a common Irish or
Pictish hand laid dead on the earth Sir Martin de Foreſt in reſcuing King Arthur
encompaſſed with a troupe of horſe (that sought to haue taken him) was ſhot into the
heart with an arrow, and dyed presently: after this Sir Cedor, Sir Gawin, Sir
Kilián, and Sir Martin, after ſo many unequalled victories abroade, came to yield
their loyall hearts, by the hands of perfidious Rebels, their own nativitie, into the
power of death in their native Country; also that valiant Scot before mentioned
King Arguile, though not a Knight of the Round Table, yet an undaunted Knight
and truely friend to King Arthur; who like an enraged Lyon makes slaughter on
every ſide with his iword beyond the expectation of humane forte; inſomuch that
the enemy beginning to diſpaire of victory, a Pictish ſoldier (aborded by Mordred)
cries out aloud in the Britiſh Langage, Sir you Britaines, what do you ſight for;
Arthur your King (an whom you depend) and all his Knights of the Round Ta-
ble are dead: This made King Arthur ſoldiers begin to ſtarke, which he hearing
made haſt to the moſt eminent place that he could fynd, where being conſpicioſus (and
visible to them all) he ſpoke theſe couraſious wordes: Fight on (ſellowes in armes)
I am (I praise heaven for it) neither dead nor wounded, but in perfect health (and
strength) and that theſe valianouorebelz and traytors (who ſpeak what they will)
ſhall ſoon find theſe wordes kindle fresh fire of valour in the breaſts of all true Br-
itaines, ſo as the battell did (as it were) begin anew; inſomuch that the perdi-
uous Mordred without hope, fled with his rebellious remnant towards the Towne
of Glaſenburg in Somerſet ſhire, whither King Arthur and his Knights, with the
reſt of his gallantry, ſpedily pursued them, and there began afresh to fight, where
King Arthur, who in former nights had received ten ſeverall wounds in his head, but
none mortall till now, that the ſpear of a (broken) Laurence hapned to pierce his
skull, and that probed his deaths wound; but before he dyed, even when he ſeſt
the very agony of death approching in his hot incensed blood, he did wonderfull
execution upon his enemies, and ſtil continued fighting (as though he had ſeſt
no hurt) till a messenger brought him ryding that the traitor Mordred was slain;
then ſaid he, the unriſtable will and decree of heaven be done, for I am well con-
tent, and willing to dye: So ſoon as the Rebels heard, and ſaw that their Captain
Mordred was dead, it is wonderfull to relate in what a diſorderd conuulfion they

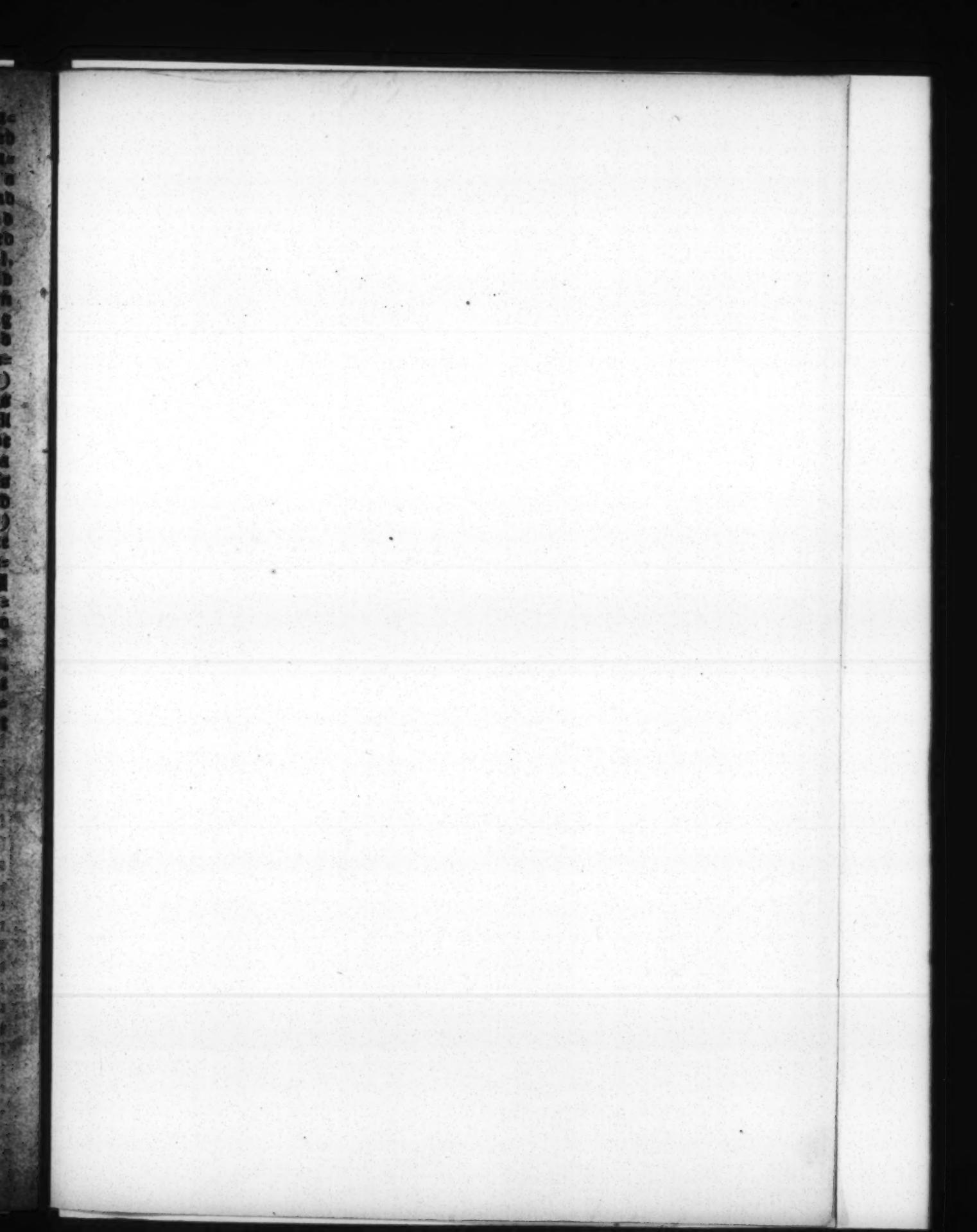
Ten some one forty, and some another, they were sensible (by the testimony of conscience), that their offence perilling in rebellion (against to rate a King) had brought them beyond hope of pard. n therefore they asked men in the said rebellion. There was a greater number killed in the field than in the battell, scarce a man of them had escaped, of the sold in approach of goo King Arthur's death had not extencted further nor less; there was slain in the battell twelve thousand, and in the flight fifteen thousand; Mordred, basfull deale habt his life time, placet him a generall harrer after death: he dyed suddenly without any care for his soul, thinke chosen the heart with a Javelin (in the hand of a Common soldier) and when he was dead none tooke care of his body; his owne hond (a st gwynt for a Clayton) which were of the blou royal (and soys he being aduised to King Arthur (as you have heard before) the gallant Sir Gwin Knight of the Round Table, who dyed bravely fighting for his King, in this battell, was his shewman, he was colen garman to that illustre Cador Duke of Cornwall (another) Knight of the Round Table who also triumphed over death in his booraignes tempe) whole sonn (Constantine) succeeded King Arthur in the Kingdome yet all this bligh birth and alliance could not purchase a grave, unlesse some Country bynde buried him in his (Richard of Norther) son of his styncher (though to gree a personage) no mention was ever made to this day: well enough of hem (unless he had been better) now let us retorne to K. Arthur, who lying upon his death-bed (at Glastenbury) where habing (like a worthy Christian as he alwayes haueyd) made an eternall peace between God and his soul and also a litle living peace (for the future) to his Realme, wounding for his successor (dyng without any tyme) his nephew Constantine the Son of Cador Duke of Cornwall, as I told you lately. So this renowned Chrystian worthy (valiant King Arthur) haueing first hanquished the Saracens at home, and entred the foraigne Countries in the Monarchy of Britaine; when he had thow victoriouse raigne 20 years, herina dyed to desirous interell and his soule to his Redemer in the year of Christ, 1100, and was buried at Glastenbury, ther habys in this oyent modern age / I meane within living mens memroye there hath been an old Epitaph, with folowynge memorie of him, founde the Epitaph (in full as I can) I think it not impertinent to render in English.

King Arthur Epitaph.

Here lyes great Arthur Britaines King,
Mongst Christian worthies ffor to come,
His fame throughout the world is known,
None did such do they deere in me,
Dearth all unto this pale oceas bring,
He cys labue the greatest King.

FINIS.

6 OCT 62



tan some one way, and some another, they were sensible (by the testimony of conscience) that their obstrukcion persisting in rebellion (against so rare a King) had brought them beyond hope of pardoun; therefore they asked none: in this battell there was a greater number killed in the field then in the battell scarce a man of them had escaped, if the sudden approach of godly King Arthur had not prevented further pursuit; there was slain in the battell twelve thousand, and in the flight fifteen thousand; Morred, hatefull deare in his life time, persecuted him a generall hater after death: he dyed suddenly without any care for his soul, thrust thowre the heart with a Javelin (in the hand of a Common soldier) and when he was dead none tooke care of his Body; his armes hindered (a st garded for a Captayn) which were of the blood royall (and how he being neare to King Arthur (as you have heard before) the gallant Sir Gwin Knight of the Round Table, who dyed bravely fighting for his King) in this battell, was his owne borthir, he was colen garman to that illustre Cador Duke of Cornwall (another) Knight of the Round Table who also triumphed over death in his Nobrainerie whose Son (Constantine) succeeded King Arthur in the Kingdome yet all this high birth and attaint could not purchase a grave until some Country hynde buried him in his (Richard of Gaunden) for of his reputation (though so grete a personage) no mention was ever made to this day: Well, enough of him (unless he had been better) now let us retorne to K. Arthur, wholyng upon his death-bed (at Glensbury) where habing (like a worthy Christian as he alwayes had been) made an eternall peace between God and his soul: and also a likely living peace (for the future) to his Kingdome, appointing for his successor (dyng without any issue) his Nephew Constantine the Son of Cador Duke of Cornwall as I told you lately. So this renowned Christian worthy (valiant King Arthur) having first vanquished the Saxons at homr, and smitid the foraign Crownes to the Monarchy of Britaine: when he had thus victoriouse reigned 26 years, herten-died to death his selfe, and his soule to his Redemer in the year of Christ, 536, and was buried at Glensbury, ther wher in this present modern age (I meane within living mens memory) there hath been an old Epitaph, with sondre memorials of him, found the Epitaph (so well as I can) I think it verie impertinent to rynber in England.

King Arthur's Epitaph.

Here lyet great Arthur Britaine King,
Mongst Christian worthies he is the best,
His fame throughout the world doth ring,
None did such doughty deeds as he,
Death all unto this passe doth bring
He can subdue the greatest King.

FINIS.

6 OC 62

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9